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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Kyoichi NARIAI  
Title: PIEZOELECTRIC ELEMENT  
DRIVING CIRCUIT AND DRIVING  
METHOD  
Appl. No.: Unassigned  
Filing Date: May 23, 2000  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: Unassigned



**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present invention.

CONCISE EXPLANATION OF  
RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The relevance of the document A1 is described in the present specification.

Document A2 relates to a piezo-element driving circuit.

Document A3 relates to a piezo-actuator drive circuit. English translations of the Japanese documents are not readily available; however, English abstracts are provided herewith. The absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP § 609).

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), within three months of the filing date.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP § 609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 23, 2000

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